

Fall 2010

WCSA AlumNEWS: Fall 2010

UMM Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving

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WCSA AlumNEWS

Fall 2010

Lifelong friends gather in Morris for Founders Weekend

Gordon Geistfeld '57, Don Kosen '57, and Loryn Stelter '57 began their journey to Founders Weekend 2010 with last year's Christmas card. Already planning to attend the WCSA 100th anniversary, Kosen, a fan of bluegrass band Monroe Crossing, noticed that they were on the Founders Weekend program. He wrote on his cards, "We should go to this."

When they came to WCSA as farm boys, Geistfeld, Kosen, and Stelter were away from home for the first time. They were roommates and held jobs together, lessening the sting of loneliness. Their friendships are born of shared experiences and mutual respect. Their lives are intertwined, but each has a unique story to tell.

Gordon Geistfeld, Cottonwood

Geistfeld, the group genealogist and comedian, tells stories about his friends with admiration and sparkling humor. While his and Kosen's dads were talking about the Ag School one day, the idea of attending WCSA took root. He agreed to go because he liked farming and because of friendships with Kosen and Stelter, a second cousin. A closer bond formed when all three were roommates and freshman dormitory preceptors.

Geistfeld liked the academics and realized an affinity for math, particularly geometry. He was impressed by the moral and social examples set by instructors and staff. "All of the professors were great teachers," he says. "They dressed well and taught well." He easily rattles off names with fond recollection.

Now semi-retired from dairy farming, he has driven semi trucks for 10 years. This second career has taken him to all 48 contiguous states in a big rig or as a tram



Gordon Geistfeld '57, Don Kosen '57, Loryn Stelter '57 attended Founders Weekend festivities together this fall.

driver for events as diverse as a New Mexico balloon festival and a Pennsylvania Dutch country golf tournament. His two sons run the family farm.

Geistfeld's travel revolves around good works, making three missionary trips to South America. He saw sights like the Atacama Desert, the driest place on earth.

Don Kosen, Lakeland

Kosen caught the attention of Ralph Smith, an Aggie recruiter, when a 4-H group visited Morris. Smith talked to his parents who decided that Kosen and his younger brother would attend. He entered as a junior and a third brother eventually entered as a freshman. All three were on the football team and once played together in a game against Crookston.

Being away from home was hard, but Kosen recognizes growth and development that took place in an environment that "helps you learn independence quickly." That structure included limits on freedom. "C" students could leave campus once a month, "B" students once a week, and "A" students any time. Their newfound autonomy accounts for the popcorn ruse. The boys popped corn between the screen and the window to vent the telltale aroma outside.

After graduation, Kosen witnessed a stunning example of the school's reputation. He applied to study agronomy at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, and they didn't even require a transcript. "I was ready for college," he says of WCSA, "and made a smooth transition." After two years, his life took a turn, as 1959 was a dry year, and the farm could not support his whole family. Continuing his studies was no longer an option.

(continued on page 10)



Greetings from the Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving

Seasons come and seasons go. And like the seasons, the names and faces of people affiliated with campus continue to change, but the mission to

educate remains steady. As a nod to that mission, and to the people who have provided for it and who have benefited from it for more than 100 years, we have been celebrating this yearlong "season" of 2010.

The festivities are coming to a close, but it has been a remarkable year. We celebrated the 100th anniversary of the West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station and the 50th anniversary of the University of Minnesota, Morris. Many Aggies returned to campus for the July reunion and the Founders Day celebration in September. UMM's Homecoming in October welcomed record numbers of alumni back to campus and many also attended Founders Day activities. And while both Aggies and UMM alumni have fully embraced their lives after leaving Morris, it is obvious that they cherish memories of this place and the role they played in campus history. An amazing documentary, described in this newsletter, captures the history and the spirit of this campus. I hope you are able to view it. It would make a great Holiday gift!

Mark your calendars! Representatives from the Class of 1956 are planning a special 55th reunion as part of the overall all-school reunion, and the Class of 1961 has also contacted our office to begin planning their 60th. The fall *AlumNEWS* will have complete details on these and other reunions that will take place on campus on Saturday, July 16, 2011.

AlumNEWS is available online for those interested in receiving it electronically. You can access the current issue at www.morris.umn.edu/alumni. If you would like to discontinue receiving hard copies, please contact us to request that we remove your name from the conventional mailing list.

You can call or email me anytime with questions, concerns, or just to say hello. I always enjoy hearing from alumni and can be reached at 320-589-6394 or rileycj@morris.umn.edu.

Carla Riley '85

WCSA winter gatherings in warm places

Whether you are a year-around resident of Texas or Arizona, on vacation in the Southwest, or a winter snowbird, you are invited to attend these warm-weather locations West Central School of Agriculture Alumni Association get-togethers.

The Arizona WCSA All-School Winter Reunion is planned for Monday, February 7, 2011. Gather at 11 a.m. for conversation and a noon meal at the ViewPoint RV and Golf Resort in Mesa, Arizona. Everyone is invited. To make your reservation, contact Ted Storck '54 at arizonated@cox.net or call 623-266-4995. If you make a reservation, please attend as the resort will charge for all reservations. Directions: From US 60, exit on Soussaman Road, north about three miles to University; right on University; and left on Hawes Road. The resort is on Hawes Road.

WCSA alumni and guests are invited to gather for an informal Winter Texan Gathering at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2011, at Gatti's, 4100 North Second Street in McAllen, Texas. No need to RSVP. Just mark your calendars and join the fun. Call LaVonne Dupree '59 at 701-640-4991 for more information.

The Class of 1954 and Class of 55 Arizona Winter Reunion will be held on Sunday, March 6, 2011, at the home of Ted Storck '54 in Surprise. The group will gather for a pot luck dinner anytime after noon. For more information, contact Ted Storck '54 at arizonated@cox.net or call 623-266-4995.

Prairie Yard and Garden features campus gardens

Prairie Yard and Garden, a Pioneer Public Television program produced by the University of Minnesota, Morris, will include an episode on campus gardens during its 2010-11 season, including the WCSA garden. The episode premieres on Thursday, February 10, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. with an encore presentation scheduled for Saturday, February 12, 2011, at 4:30 p.m.

Larry Zilliox, former University Extension educator from Alexandria, Minnesota, serves as host for the gardening series. Pioneer broadcasts to 45 rural counties serving western Minnesota, northwestern Iowa, and eastern South Dakota.

Thank you to new and outgoing WCSA directors

Three new WCSA Board of Directors members were elected at the July annual meeting: James Dewey '54, Eldon "Tex" Larson '55, and Kay Noble Mariotti '58. Three outgoing board members have completed second terms: Andrew Brevig '46, Carol Dewey Erlandson '55, and John Kvale '54.

"We thank the new members for their willingness to serve on the board, and we owe a large debt of gratitude to Andrew, John, and Carol," says Carla Riley. "They have been wonderful to work with."

University of Minnesota, Morris news highlights

Fall 2010 Enrollment confirms growth trend

Degree-seeking enrollment increased by more than five percent for fall 2010, confirming a three-year growth trend. The increase in degree-seeking students plus nondegree-seeking students results in a total enrollment of new and continuing students at 1,812, a six-year high.

Applications for fall 2010 enrollment set an all-time high. New students this fall include 419 first-year students, up more than three percent over last year, and 134 transfers, up 30 percent over last year.

U.S. News and *Forbes* "Best College" lists

Morris made the "Best College" list in both *U.S. News and World Report* and *Forbes*. Public and private institutions are included in the Best College lists.

Morris was ranked sixth in the Top Public Schools in the National Liberal Arts Colleges category and made the Top 100 list of Best Colleges: Most Students Studying Abroad in *U.S. News*.

The *U.S. News* Top Public Schools in the National Liberal Arts Colleges category included, in order, United States Military Academy, West Point; United States Naval Academy; Virginia Military Institute; St. Mary's College of Maryland; New College of Florida; University of Minnesota, Morris; University of North Carolina, Asheville; and Purchase College, State University of New York.

Morris and the California Maritime Academy were the only public schools to be named to the *U.S. News* Best Colleges: Top 100 Most Students Studying Abroad list.

Greetings from the Alumni Association President



WOW, what a year of celebration we have had in 2010! The alumni garden was planted with more plants than ever before with wonderful results of great beauty all summer and into the fall. It still was bright with Aggie colors for Founders Weekend in September.

The new bronze plaques were installed early in June and dedicated as part of our reunion program in July. We received the ultimate compliment at that time when someone told us it looked like the plaques had been on the buildings for 50 years. Yes, that was the feel we were looking for!

A bonus of your generosity toward the plaque project, combined with the cooperation of Cold Spring Granite Company and Sewah Studios, Inc., was that we came in way under our original sign budget and were able to erect a large sign in front of the old Engineering building. This sign tells the story of the WCSA.

Dennis Gimmestad '72 of the UMM Alumni Association and I had the privilege of unveiling the sign during a Founder's Day Program in September.

As you may remember, we indicated extra funds would go toward publishing the *AlumNEWS*. The numbers available to us at reunion time indicated receipts of more than \$10,000 and expenses of less than \$7,000. At the Annual Meeting we learned that the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association was working on a walking tour for visitors and action was taken to use one-half of our "profit" and collaborate with them on the tour.

I am truly honored to serve in a leadership capacity of such a wonderful and generous group of people. You all honor the sacrifice your families made to send you to the WCSA.

Carol Pederson Meyer '60



Courtyard restored in memory of Bob DeWall

The University of Minnesota, Morris is honored to receive a gift from the family of the late Robert B. DeWall to create a courtyard in his memory. The Robert B. DeWall Memorial Courtyard was dedicated on Founders Day in September 2010 during the dedication of the Welcome Center, formerly Engineering.

Robert B. “Bob” DeWall, a lifelong Morris resident, played a founding role in the establishment of the University of Minnesota, Morris. He was an early member of the West Central Educational Development Association (WCEDA), which along with other founding community members, successfully lead a citizens’ effort to persuade the Board of Regents to establish the University of Minnesota, Morris campus in 1959. He was active in the business community and served many civic organizations. DeWall was an avid UMM supporter from the day the college opened in 1960 until his death in 2008.

The DeWall Courtyard has been created on the former site of a WCSA reflecting pool and garden. A cobblestone path leads to the area located on the west side of the Welcome Center.

Jim DeWall, one of Bob DeWall’s five children, remembers his father and other west central Minnesota business people working as WCEDA members, making their case for a college in Morris by gathering data and contacting legislators, regents, and area high school principals. He fondly recalls his dad’s after-dinner practice of strolling through campus, located just across the street from the DeWall home.

“It is an honor for the DeWall family to commemorate my dad in this way,” says Jim, “with a courtyard on the Morris campus.”

Morris campus documentary reflects on place and purpose

Promise of the Prairie: Education in Three Acts, a new campus history documentary created by University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) Media Services, explores campus history from the American Indian boarding school era, through the West Central School of Agriculture period, to the Morris years, noting the campus’s impact on the region, state, and beyond. Viewers will hear voices from the past including Mother Mary Joseph of the Sisters of Mercy, WCSA alumni reminiscing about moving away from home as young teenagers...the trials and the thrills, and members of the UMM campus community in its earliest days.

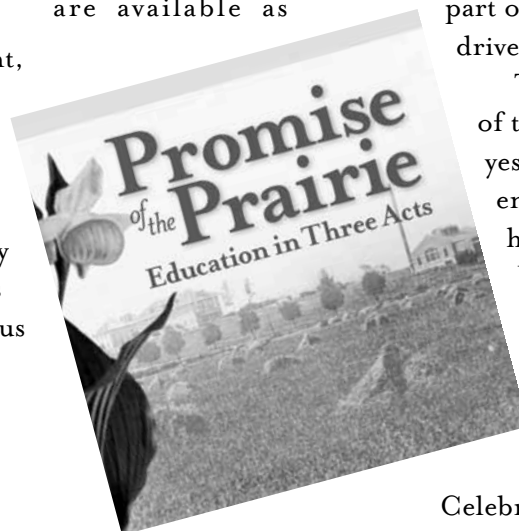
The documentary was premiered during Founders Weekend festivities in September 2010, but the public will be able to watch the documentary on Pioneer Public Television on January 23, 2011, and copies of the DVD are available as

part of a new scholarship drive (see below).

The documentary of the campus’s yesterdays can be enjoyed in your home—as you help UMM students of tomorrow. Gifts of \$30 or more will help create a new endowed 2010

Celebration scholarship

fund and qualify donors to receive a copy of *Promise of the Prairie*. All but \$5 of your gift is tax-deductible within the fullest extent permitted by law. The University of Minnesota Foundation will issue a charitable gift receipt when your gift is received. With your help, the goal of raising a minimum of \$25,000 to endow the 2010 Celebration scholarship will be reached. Once \$25,000 is raised, we will apply for the University of Minnesota President’s Scholarship Match Program. The program will match on a dollar-for-dollar basis the payout of the endowment. For more information, please call 320-589-6386 or email koldenja@morris.umn.edu.





WCSA places historic plaques and marker as gift to campus

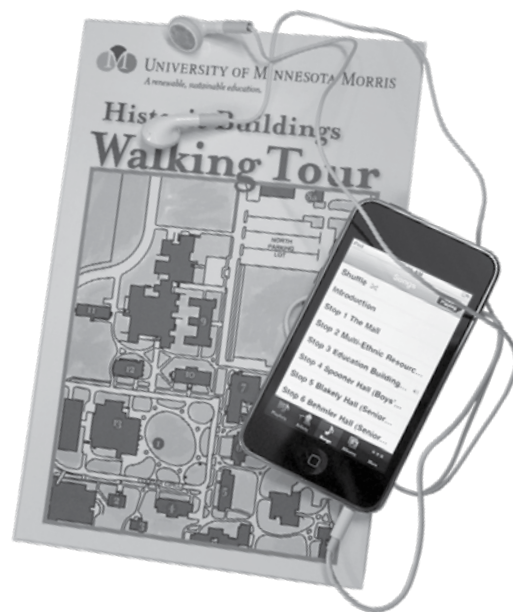
The West Central School of Agriculture (WCSA) Alumni Association played a key role in placing the Morris campus on the National Register of Historic Places as the West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station Historic District in 2003. Now, in 2010, WCSA alumni have organized another historic project for the campus. Bronze plaques have been placed on 13 historic district buildings denoting their WCSA era names. Purchased with funds raised by the WCSA Alumni Association, the plaques were dedicated during the WCSA All-School Reunion in July 2010.

WCSA alumni also placed a large marker sharing campus history in front of the new Welcome Center, the former WCSA Engineering building. The marker was unveiled to symbolize the official dedication of the Welcome Center during Founders Weekend in September.



Top photo by Courtney Driessen '12, Blooming Prairie: Merald Thorstad '50, Reuben Luthi '49, Andy Brevig '46, Carol Meyer '60, Harriet Payne '60, Tom Payne '60 Bottom photo: Chancellor Johnson during dedication

WCSA and UMM Alumni Associations sponsor free audio history tours for campus visitors



WCSA alumni, as well as UMM alumni and students, campus visitors, and area residents, will all enjoy the new audio walking tours now available at the Welcome Center or Student Center on the Morris campus. The tour traces campus history as narrators guide you through the easy walk with stops and stories at various places and spaces. The West Central School of Agriculture (WCSA) Alumni Association collaborated with the University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association to sponsor the project in celebration of UMM's 50th birthday and WCSA's 100th anniversary of its founding. At no charge, you can check out the tour and equipment on the Morris campus or download the tour to your mobile device online at morris.umn.edu/walkingtour.



2010 All-School

Class of 1945

Seated Row: Carol Lamb Berg, Mardella Bonzelet Matteson, Marilyn Hennen Mahoney, Floyd Fuhrman
Second Row: Charlie Berg, Harold Fahl, Stan Benson, Robert Beumer, Robert "Bob" Rolfe



Sunday brunch



The Reverend Lyle Peterson '60, Barbara Peterson, Kenwood Rund '60



Class of 1950

Seated Row: Bertha Maus Sperr, Betty Norman Anderson, Phyllis Thielke Harste, Arlene Yochem Ulstad, Erna Lehrke Ellingson, Donna Evavold Sonmor, JoAnn Redfield Anderson, Janice Dewey Walkup
2nd Row: Edelle Magnuson, Vivian Jorgenson Christopherson, Lorna Chapman Hahn, Shirley Van Horn, Anna Gibson Roth, Phyllis Boen Dyer, Peggy Horning, Audrey Rinke Jackson
3rd Row: John Walkup, Alan Duffield, Linus Krahling, Wes Thompson, David Meyer, Gene Hahn, Jerome Hagen, Merald Thorstad, Elmer Hogy, Richard Keller

Reunion Scrapbook



Class of 1955

Front row, seated: Jan Berg Arneson, Lyle W. Nelson, Mavis Muller, Becky Foslien Banwart, Delores Englund Oletzke, Jan Olston Johnson, Elaine Aswege Harstad Middle Row: Jerry Berger, Bob Torkelson, Richard Fenner, Stan Weeding, Tallick Johnson Third Row: Gurvin Femrite, Don Buth, Dave Arneson, Virgil Fultes, Alan Parson, Carol Dewey Erlandson, Lucy Sorenson Freitag, Lyle Maanum, Tex Larson, Ervin Roscholl, Dave Aanerud



LuWanna Foslien Hintermeister '60, Jerry Koosman '60, Norma J. Miller Bradow '60



Harriet Vaala Payne '60, Margaret Vaala, Ernie Vaala '56, Karen Swendsrud Frederick '60

*Mark your calendars
for the 2011
WCSA All-School
Summer Reunion
on July 16, 2011!*



Mildred Stomberg Toso '40



Walter "Slim" Hokanson '30

Class News

compiled by Sarah Deutl '11, Anoka

Class of '30

Esther Jacobson passed away in January 2009.

Geneva Zimmerman Vesterby, Chokio, passed away in July 2010.

Class of '32

John "Doc" Busch, Chokio, passed away in July 2010.

Class of '34

Ernest Bier, Morris, passed away in June 2010.

Mildred Garner Oberg, Litchfield, passed away in July 2009.

Class of '39

Jay Katzenmeyer, Madison, passed away in August 2010.

Polycarp Meyer passed away in March 2010. Survivors include brother **David Meyer '50**.

Class of '42

Doris Westboe Driggins, Morris, passed away in July 2010.

Cleone Brustuen, Alberta, passed away in March 2010.

Class of '43

Donna Root Eystad Bahr, Morris, passed away in July 2010.



John Hennen '44 and wife JoAnn Hennen (right) visited campus with Marilyn Hennen Mahoney '45.



Virene Brunkow Olson '47 and Ardelle Norman Rohloff '47 attended the 2010 Summer Reunion.

Class of '45

Shirley Vikesland Anderson, Fergus Falls, passed away in 2008.

Urban Geurts, Wheaton, passed away in June 2010.

Daniel Johansen, Tyler, passed away in September 2008.

Class of '48

Russ Kneeland writes, "I started school at WCSA as a freshman in 1942, Class of 1945, and as a junior in 1943, Class of 1945. Uncle Sam called in 1944, and I was in the army until 1946 serving in Germany. I returned to WCSA in 1947, Class of 1948, and intended to come back to complete the following year and graduate, but I started farming in 1948 through 1951. I married Marilyn Powers on January 28, 1950, and we moved to Minneapolis. We had three sons, born in 1953, 1954, and 1956. I worked for Twin City Lines as a motorman and bus driver until 1961. From 1961 to 1964, I owned and operated a truck hauling heavy equipment to the West Coast and Canada. In 1964, I returned to school and became an insurance adjuster for Farm Bureau Insurance Company until 1975. From 1975 until 1987, I was employed by Metropolitan Transit Commission as a driver and instructor. From 1978 to 1987, I was a safety supervisor until my retirement in 1987. During these years we enjoyed our boat, airplane, and traveling all over the continental United States and Alaska, as well as Canada and Mexico with our Airstream trailer. In 1983, we built our retirement home in Wisconsin, where we enjoy golfing,

bird watching, etc. We have spent our winters in Wisconsin, Texas, and Hawaii the last few years. While at WCSA, I was on the cross-country team every year (lettered in 1948) and was in the class play in 1948. I feel that WCSA was the crowning jewel in my life, giving me confidence, integrity, honesty, and a good work ethic. I am thankful I attended such a great school for the teachers, coaches, and great fellowship."

Class of '50

Arlene Yochem Ulstad, whose Moccasin story was featured in the spring 2010 WCSA AlumNEWS, contacted us to let us know that she considers 1950 her WCSA reunion year.

Class of '51

Richard "Dick" Hanrahan, Morris, passed away in May 2010.

Class of '55

Richard Storck and wife Joyce write, "After many years of traveling south in our motor home to Florida, Texas, Arizona and other warm states, we decided to buy a home in Arizona. We found a nice four-year-old home in Surprise, which is on the northwest corner of the Phoenix area, right next to Sun City and Sun City West. We got the keys to the house 10 days before we had to leave for home. We got some furniture—sofa and love seat, bed, dresser, highboy, washer, dryer, kitchen table, and a fridge. We also had a concrete patio installed in the backyard. I used some of my training from the WCSA to complete these tasks. We changed the door locks, reprogrammed the garage door opener, and trimmed the existing trees and bushes. I [Rick] did have open heart surgery last November and had a valve repaired and a couple of bypasses done while they were in there. I had to return several weeks later because of fluid buildup and spend a few more days in



Bernard Meyer '53 and David Meyer '50 attended the 2010 Summer Reunion.

the hospital. I have recovered well, as you can see by my work schedule above. We go to a lot of garage and estate sales to find what we need. If any of you are down in Arizona and want to visit, just give us a call: 763-477-6415. Hope to see all of you at the wonderful 55-year reunion of our class."

Class of '57

Gordie Swenson writes, "After graduation came the Navy. After the Navy came Otter Tail Power Company.

Then came retirement, which I am enjoying very much. My knees are bad, but I think that will soon change, for they have been replaced. I have spent half my life chasing black bear for people, as I was the guide. Now I have pretty much retired from that also. So the only thing new for



me is that this past year I sat down and wrote a book about some of my experiences as a child, hunts I have been on that weren't bear related, and a lot of bear stories. I have resurrected some old friendships that were related to bears, and we can still laugh about the hunts. I would like to invite everyone to check out the book at my website: www.gordieswenson.com. I am happy to say that I painted the cover picture and did it from a real bear encounter. I think of my old schoolmates a lot, but don't see many of them...only glimpse a flash of those around Fergus Falls once in awhile. Take care everyone and be careful."

Class of '59

Joani Eggum writes, "My two oldest grandchildren, Blake and Katie, with two of their dear friends are going on a mission trip to Korah in Ethiopia, Africa to work with the children for two weeks. They will be bringing with them the joy of music! They are trying to earn money to buy guitars and music, or have guitars donated to take over there to teach the children how to play and to leave with them. Please pull up the website that my grandson made explaining their mission: www.musicforkorah.com. Ethiopia is where their two little brothers are from and where their new sister is from. I am so very, very proud of them...and hope for at least a prayer for them, but I am hoping they can be helped to get their goal of guitars."

Class of '60

Ken Smith, Lakefield, passed away in May 2008.

(Friends continued from page one)

Kosen began working with concrete. He met a girl whose fireman father encouraged him to take the civil service test. Passing for fireman and law enforcement, he was contacted by the Minnesota Highway Patrol but missed the height requirement by half an inch! He spent the next 35 years as a fireman.

After retiring in 1998, Kosen drove a cement truck for 10 years. Slow business during the winter afforded him a third career of 46 years as a tax preparer.

A city dweller for 50 years, in his heart he “never really left the farm” and is “still connected to the land,” even more so after having inherited some of his parents’ land. As a hunter he credits WCSA with learning animal behavior and a butchering class for knowing how to handle fresh meat.

Kosen’s travels have a pragmatic slant. Participating in Volvo’s Overseas Delivery Program in which a buyer takes possession of a vehicle bought locally at a Swedish factory, the Kosens toured eight countries in 13 weeks, 7,000 miles, before shipping their new car home.

Loryn Stelter, Lynd

Keeping children out of school for farm work was a German custom, one which Stelter’s dad followed. As the middle of three brothers, he was chosen as the innovator. Since school ran October through March,

this was a perfect way for farm kids to get an education and keep dads happy.

The food “fresh from the farm” made it seem “like living at home,” he says. Stelter and Geistfeld held jobs as dishwashers on campus and pin-setters at the bowling alley, earning money for movies and treats.

Stelter appreciated the usefulness of the welding, woodworking, mechanics, livestock, and agronomy classes. But the opportunity to act in plays and take home economics classes expanded his perspectives.

Stelter considers “learning to live together” the greatest WCSA life lesson. It helped him to be mentally ready for military service when he joined the Air National Guard, which was on alert for deployment to Viet Nam. Knowing how to get along with others increased his effectiveness in community service as township clerk and in church offices.

Of his three daughters and a son, none followed him into farming but all are successful, and his son has given the farm new life as hunting ground.

Touring the Welcome Center on Founders Weekend, formerly Engineering, triggered memories of classes and young men’s lives on the verge of a new technological age. And they were ready. Attending the festivities reconnected them with their alma mater and the region that was their second home more than half a century ago.

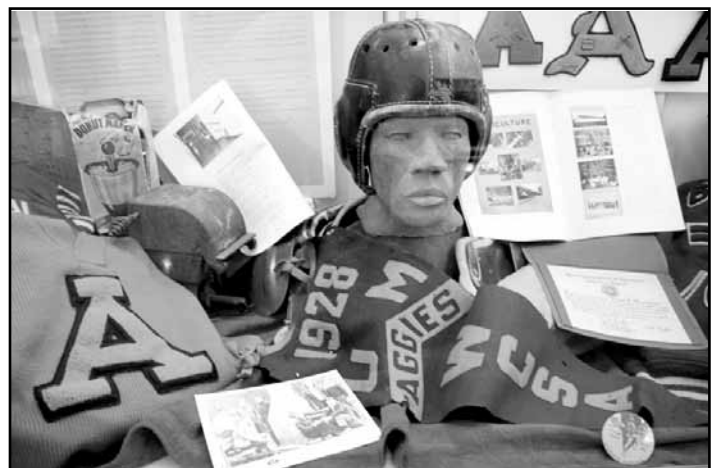
WCSA alumni contribute to 2010 Celebration exhibit

A 2010 Celebration exhibition telling the Morris campus story through artifacts, photographs, and personal memorabilia was featured in the Humanities Fine Arts Gallery during Founders Weekend and UMM Homecoming. Items on display included a photo of Mother Mary Joseph who established an American Indian boarding school in 1887, survey equipment

used for the construction of West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station buildings in the 1920s, and “beanies” worn by UMM freshmen in the 1960s.

WCSA alumni contributed to the exhibit, submitting

unique items such as the siren that called WCSA students to the Dining Hall for meals, an antique toaster used to make breakfast for hundreds of Aggies over the years, a 1925 diploma, a 1928 pennant, a 1948



letter sweater, and a 1956–58 WCSA course bulletin.

Michael Eble, associate professor of studio art and HFA Gallery curator, organized and designed the exhibit in conjunction with the 2010 Celebration Committee. Thank you to all WCSA alumni who submitted items for the 2010 Exhibition.

Photos by Cassie Hall '13, Brookings, South Dakota



Opportunity to give to Promise of Tomorrow program winding down

Scholarships are among the highest priorities for giving at Morris. The Universitywide Promise of Tomorrow (POT) Matching Scholarship program will cease to new scholarships on December 31, 2010. If you have thought about establishing an endowed scholarship, individually or in collaboration with fellow Aggies, now may be the right time! Thirty POT Scholarships have been created at Morris under this forever matching program.

"Thank you to all WCSA alumni who have established or contributed to POT scholarships," says Maddy Maxeiner, associate vice chancellor for external relations. "The University's match is a wonderful bonus for donors and students alike. If you'd like to learn more, I'd be happy to provide information about creating your own POT Scholarship before the end of the year or about any type of scholarship at Morris."

Contact Maxeiner at 320-589-6386 or maxeiner@morris.umn.edu.

Class of 1956 announcement

The Class of 1956 is planning an extra-special 55-year reunion for July 16, 2011, during the All-school Summer Reunion. All members of the Class of 1956 are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars.

Calendar of Events

February 7, 2011

Arizona All-School Winter Reunion at 11 a.m. at the ViewPoint RV and Golf Resort at 8350 East University Drive in Mesa

February 15, 2011

Winter gathering at 11:30 a.m. at Gatti's in McAllen, Texas

May 27, 2011

WCSA Alumni Garden planting at 10 a.m.

June 6, 2011

Board meeting at 7 p.m. at LaFave House

July 8, 2011

West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) Field Day from 8 a.m. until noon

July 16, 2011

WCSA All-School Summer Reunion

July 28, 2011

WCROC Horticulture Night from 5 until 9 p.m.

Class News

WCSA alumni love reading Class News, so send us your updates! Mail us a letter, give us a call, or send an email about your careers, families, travels, hobbies, activities, and WCSA memories. We will include your news in the next *AlumNEWS* issue. The deadline for submission is **April 1, 2011**.

Funding for *AlumNEWS*

Your donations fund *AlumNEWS*. Thanks to those who have given in the past! We appreciate your donations. Checks to support *AlumNEWS* should be made payable to the University of Minnesota, Morris and sent to the address at right.

WCSA Web page

The *WCSA AlumNEWS* is available online for those interested in electronically receiving it. If you would

like to discontinue receiving a printed newsletter, please contact us to request that we remove your name from the conventional mailing list. The newsletter, photos, and a history of the WCSA can be found on the WCSA website at: morris.umn.edu/WCSA. *AlumNEWS* is produced by the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving. It is available in alternative formats upon request. Class news, donations, comments, corrections, or questions may be directed to:

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